Night Schools.

319. *MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Changanacherry I*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) the number of night schools getting Government aid ;

(*b*) the total grant paid to them in 1108 ;

(*c*) who is responsible for supervising and inspecting them ; and

(*d*) whether they are regularly inspected and inspection reports regularly submitted ?

MR. R. M. STATHAM (*Director of Public Instruction*) : (*a*) 31.

(*b*) Rs. 1,713-18-10.

(*c*) The Assistant Inspecting Officers of the respective Districts.

(*d*) Yes.

Labour strike in factories.

320. MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether they are aware of the constant labour strikes occurring in the factories at Alleppey and Quilon ; and

(*b*) whether Government made any enquiry as to the cause of these strikes ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*) : (*a*) Government are aware that a few such strikes occurred in Alleppey and Quilon.

(*b*) According to the information, these strikes were reported to have been brought about by the reduction of wages consequent on the abnormal fall in the prices of commodites and the introduction of piece-work system, etc., in the factories.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : With reference to the answer to part (*a*), may I know from the member how many strikes took place in Quilon and how many in Alleppey in the last year ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*) : Two and three.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : May I know whether Government took any action on this after enquiry ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*) : No action was taken.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : May I know whether anybody is appointed in Quilon or Alleppey under the Factories Regulation to inspect these factories ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*) : No special officer is appointed. The District Magistrate is Inspector of Factories also.

MR. K. KUNJUKRISHNA PILLAI (*Quilon I*) : May I know whether the District Magistrate, as Inspector of Factories, has visited any of these factories ?

MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*) : No.

MR. K. R. ELENKATH (*Kalkulam I*) : May I know whether every strike is reported to Government ?

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MR. T. C. THOMMEN (*Ag. Secretary to Government*): Yes; I believe so.

Coir Industry.

321. ✱**MR. KAINIKKARA M. PADMANABHA PILLAI** (*Changanachery I*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) whether the Secretary of the Alleppey Chamber of Commerce has brought to the notice of the Government that the wilful mixing of sand and moisture with the coir yarn that is being done by some coir makers is becoming a serious menance to the coir industry;

(*b*) whether the Government have taken any steps to check the mal-practice; and

(*c*) what step, if any, they propose to take?

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Director of Industries*): (*a*) Yes.

(*b*) Government are informed that the practice has more or less stopped and that no action is necessary.

(*c*) The question does not arise.

MR. E. K. KUNJURAMAN (*Nominated*): May I know whether there was any new complaint?

MR. N. K. PADMANABHA PILLAI (*Director of Industries*): No new complaint.

Patients treated in the Vaikam District Hospital.

322. ✱ **MR. V. K. VELAPPAN NAIR** (*Vaikam*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the number of patients treated in the Vaikam District Hospital during the years 1106, 1107, and 1108; and

(*b*) the number of female patients treated in the same Hospital in each of those years?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (*a*) and (*b*) The required information is given below:—

Year.	Men.	Women	Children.	Total.	In-patients	Out-patients
1106	11,367	7,223	8,163	26,753	386	26,367
1107	9,933	6,342	7,638	23,913	353	23,560
1108	12,705	8,276	8,902	29,883	564	29,319

MR. V. K. VELAPPAN NAIR (*Vaikam*): With reference to answer to part (*b*), may I know whether it is not necessary to open a separate hospital for women?

RAO SAHIB DR. N. KUNJAN PILLAI (*Chief Secretary to Government*): Government will consider that question when funds become available for the purpose.

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